



**PRESS OFFICE**

# *Media Advisory*

No: COA081799ABS

Release: Immediate

Date: August 17, 1999

Contact: Al Stubblefield

Cell: (202) 365-8526

Office: (202) 205-7654

Pager: (800) 759-8888 PIN: 8527548

## ***SBA Administrator Alvarez Announces 8,000 Small Business HubZones Nationwide***

**WHO:** Aida Alvarez, Administrator, U.S. Small Business Administration  
Member of the President's Cabinet

**WHAT:** Today, U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) **Administrator Aida Alvarez** will announce in Washington, DC, the special designation of over 8,000 HUBZone locations around the country. In addition to the announcement in Washington, DC, over 100 events have been scheduled around the nation in local communities to celebrate the HUBZone initiative.

**WEBSITE:** [www.sba.gov/hubzone/](http://www.sba.gov/hubzone/)

**WHEN:** Tuesday, August 17, 1999

Event: 1 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.  
Best Time for Visuals: 2 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**INTERVIEWS:** For one-on-one interviews, contact Al Stubblefield at (202) 365-8526.  
**Telephone interviews available today.**

**WHERE:** Matthews Memorial Baptist Church, Fellowship Hall  
2616 Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20020

**NOTE:** The HUBZone Empowerment Contracting Program is designed to stimulate economic development by providing federal contracting opportunities to small businesses located in eligible areas. A

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HUBZone is an “historically underutilized business zone.” Eligible areas cover more than 7,000 urban census tracts, 900 rural areas and every federally recognized Native American reservation.

The HUBZone Empowerment Contracting Program is a “place-based” federal contracting program serving **New Markets** communities with low income or high unemployment. The program provides both federal prime contract and subcontract benefits.

The federal government purchases about \$200 billion worth of goods and services annually. Congress has set a goal of 3 percent of the total value of all prime contracts for HUBZone contract opportunities, phased in over five years. The program’s goal in FY 99 is 1 percent, or roughly \$2 billion. The goal increases in each subsequent year to almost \$6 billion in FY 2003.

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